



The Beacon Online

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The Beacon Online is the communication source for the SELC District.

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SELC 2025 District Convention

The 2025 SELC District Convention is being held January 16 - 19, 2025 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Lake Mary, Florida. The program schedule and hotel information will be sent out soon. Please see page two for a letter from SELC District Secretary, Rev. John Telloni.





SELC DISTRICT
Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod

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May 31, 2024

TO: All Parish Pastors of the SELC District LC-MS
RE: The 21st Regular Convention of the SELC District LC-MS

Dear Brothers in the Ministry:

Greetings in Christ! This is an important notice regarding the 21st Regular Convention of the SELC District LC-MS to be held, Lord-willing, on January 16-19, 2025, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Lake Mary, FL.

In August all congregations will receive the Official Packet containing all the forms attendant to the business sessions of the convention, each with its own deadline: Credentials for the Pastoral and Lay Regular and Alternate Delegates, Resolutions, and Nominations for District President, Vice-Presidents, Circuit Visitor, Board of Directors, and Lutheran Haven Board of Trustees.

At this point in time, you are encouraged to prepare your congregation for the election of one Regular Lay and one Alternate Lay Delegate at a regular or special Voters' Assembly Meeting, or however your congregation makes these kinds of decisions, since the first convention deadline is the one set for the registration of pastoral and lay delegates by September 15, 2024. Also, it would be well to encourage your financial and stewardship officers to include a line item for convention delegate expenses in your 2025 budget.

The packet you will receive via regular mail will provide all the information that you and your congregation will need to handle the above-mentioned forms and pave the way for your participation in our district's triennial gathering. Please read through the material carefully, since there are different deadlines to which to adhere and forms to be mailed to the undersigned or the District Office, either by email or regular mail.

Information regarding registration, travel, housing and meals and other practical matters will be sent to you jointly by the host congregation and the District Office. If there are any questions or concerns that you may have, please direct them to the District Office or to the District Secretary.

May the Lord continue to bless you and your congregation in carrying out Christ's mission and ministry for the sake of His Kingdom and to His glory and honor. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always!

Yours in Christ,

John L. Telloni

Rev. John L. Telloni, Secretary
SELC District LC-MS

We are looking for pictures from earlier conventions to feature in upcoming issues of the Beacon. If you have information about who is in the pictures, please include this information when sending the photos. Please email the photos to the District Office at selc.lcms@gmail.com

The picture on page 3 is from St. John's Lutheran Church in Hazleton, PA from May 31, 1947, with the current St. John's congregation on Pentecost Sunday pictured underneath the picture from 1947.

***Please continue to share pictures from previous Conventions -
Thank You!***

Hazelton May 31, 1947





Spring Serve Sunday The Way Lutheran Church Columbia, IL



On Sunday, June 9, 2024, The Way Church hosted Spring Serve Sunday! Twice a year, the entire church community unites at a central location to joyfully dedicate their time and skills to worship God and support the community. This year, we continued our fantastic partnership with Camp Wartburg in Waterloo, IL for the second year running. Braving the rain, The Way Church family worked tirelessly to mulch a playground area, mend a worn-out bridge, construct a privacy fence, and eradicate invasive bushy honeysuckle. It was a day filled with remarkable achievements and boundless fun, and all the glory went to God!





St. Lucas Vicar Elect's Family Grows

Vicar elect Biruk Chiksa, and his wife Nettie Melene welcomed a baby girl, Mary, to their family this past Sunday evening. Mom and baby are doing well. Biruk will be serving his vicarage at St. Lucas, St. Louis, beginning next month.



Do You have a Church Member who is Preparing for Full-time Church work?

The Student Financial Aid Committee was organized by the SELC District to assist young men and women preparing for full-time professional ministry or church work within the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. This includes deaconess, lay ministry programs, as well as clergy preparation. Professional church workers who are working toward advanced degrees are not eligible for aid from the SELC District Student Aid Committee. Please see the SELC website for an application and more information by going to this link - <https://selc.lcms.org/docs/> and choose Resources, Documents, Student Aid.



Family Bible Journey Podcast

"Learn how Jesus reacts to us when we are not strong in our faith as we would like to be in this week's episode, "Help my unbelief!" at familybiblejourney.com.



Join the journey
of journaling through the Bible.



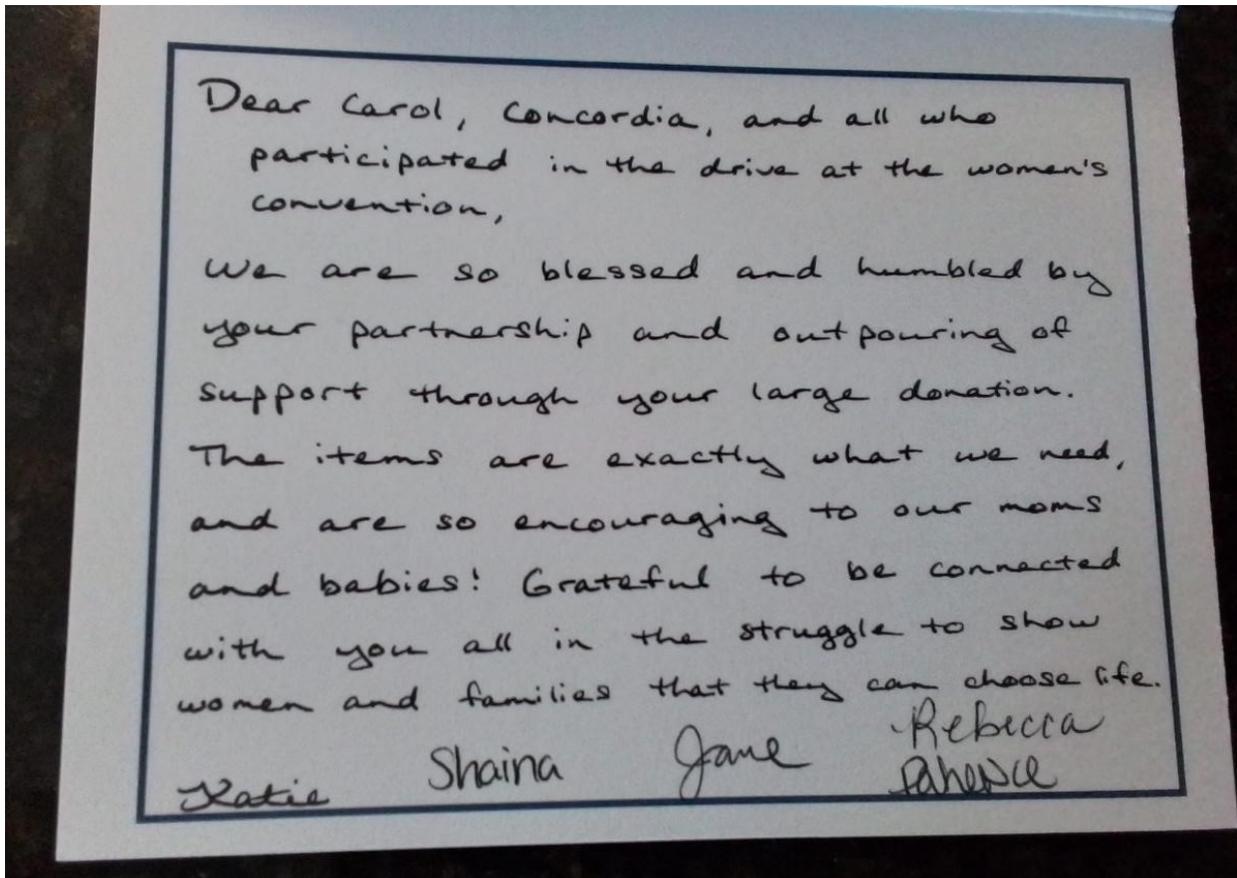
Concordia LWML Holds Baby Bottle Campaign



The LWML group at Concordia held a Baby Bottle Campaign to raise funds for Bright Hope, the organization that benefited from the LWML SELC Convention. The campaign raised over \$750 for Bright Hope and for women who choose life.

In addition, the group sent a thank you note for all that was collected at the convention and the note is below.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the gathering at the convention and to the Baby Bottle Campaign.



Registration opens for 34th Annual Theological Symposium Plenaries, Sectionals Explore how Church Engages with Technology

How can the latest technology be used in service to the church's mission? Do technological advances pose dangers? What are the pros and cons of AI, virtual reality and social media when used in service to the Gospel? This is the focus of **Concordia Seminary's** 34th Annual Theological Symposium, "**Technology and the Church: Promise and Peril,**" slated for Sept. 17-18 on campus. **Registration** is now open.

"Technology is one of the Lord's first article gifts to us for our benefit, and it bears great promise. Yet in our fallen world, good gifts are often misused to our peril," said

Dr. Kevin Golden, associate professor of Exegetical Theology and dean of Theological Research and Publication. "This year's symposium will lead the church to thoughtful, faithful engagement of technology."

This year's plenaries and sectionals will explore the opportunities and the challenges that contemporary technologies pose for the lives of individual Christians and for the entire church in life, witness and service.

- Plenary presenters include: **Dr. David Maxwell**, the Louis A. Fincke and Anna B. Shine Professor of Systematic Theology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and Dr. Joshua Hollman, Professor of Systematics Theology, Concordia University, Saint Paul, Minn.
- Dr. C. Ben Mitchell, Associate Professor of Bioethics and Contemporary Culture at Trinity International University/Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill.
- Dr. Bernard Bull, President of Concordia University, Nebraska, Seward

Additional Symposium highlights include:

- Ninth Annual Dr. Jack Dean Kingsbury Lecture in New Testament Theology presented by **Dr. James W. Voelz**, the Dr. Jack Dean Kingsbury Professor of New Testament Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis
- St. Louis Cardinals baseball game Sept. 16 sponsored by the LCMS Foundation (limited seating available)

Registration is \$175 and does not include meals. Meals are available for purchase on the registration form. The registration deadline is Sept. 4. Seminary faculty and students can attend for free but must pre-register.

The symposium will feature a custom event app and pre-registration for individual sessions. For more information and updates, visit csl.edu/symposium or contact Continuing Education at 314-505-7286 or ce@csl.edu.



Who do we serve?

In short, we serve Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) ministries and church workers.

We invite LCMS Lutherans—whether church workers or lay members—like you to invest with us. We then use those investments to help support the work of LCMS individuals, schools and organizations through low-cost loans and other strategic ministry resources.

VISIT LCEF.ORG/INVEST TO SUPPORT LCMS MINISTRIES TODAY!

Dan Lepley
SELC & English District Vice President
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 **Lutheran Church Extension Fund**
> where investments build ministry

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. LCEF will offer and sell its securities only in states where authorized. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks.



Prayer Requests

Rev. Brian Roberts, St. Luke's in Oviedo, FL is back on Florida. Please pray for him to regain the weight he has lost and to regain his strength.

Rev. Gary Schuschke, who was discharged from the hospital in Germany and is now in rehab. Please pray that he gains his strength back following his illness.

Rev. Phil Miksad, EM St. Lucas in St. Louis, MO who is home and is recovering from surgery.

Rev. John Telloni, St. John in Massillon, OH as he is working and continuing to regain his strength as he has returned to work.

Rev. and Mrs. Panzigrau, John Huss in Arnold, PA

Rev. Tom Soltis, Parma, OH

Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Ballas, Parma, OH. Please keep them in your prayers.

Rev. Alan Mercer in Galloway, NJ for his ongoing health struggles.

Megan Skelton in Oviedo, FL Please continue to pray for her and her doctors to find pain relief solutions for her jaw pain and severe headaches following her surgery.

Laura Bergmann, Munster, IN, please pray for relief of her pain in her hands, feet, back, and legs.

Deacon Jim Hurst, Parma, OH who is recovering from foot surgery.

Paul Kowalczyk, Hazleton, PA who is undergoing heart procedures.

If you have people you would like to be included in the prayer list, please send the information to selc.lcms@gmail.com or call the District Office at 610-965-3265 and press 6.



SELC District - A District Without Borders

***Showing Everyone Life in Christ, by Showing
Everyone Love in Christ***

SELC District of LCMS

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